

Thursday, October 30 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

If the Broadcast Industry takes away my control over how I use television then I will just have to remove this form of entertainment from my table. The Music Industry has already positioned itself to limit what I can do with my music so now I only buy 1 or 2 albums per year. If these industries keep up the current pace I will soon enough become a NON-CONSUMER. So then where will they be?

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Robert Eugster
4175 Irish Highland Dr
Powder Springs, GA 30127

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

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Sincerely,

DeLayna Beck
880 N 200 E
American Fork, UT 84003

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Sincerely,

Skip McDowell
2950 Crosswycke Forest Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30319

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Sincerely,

Christie Ross
1806 62nd Street Apt.1
Berkeley, CA 94703

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Sincerely,

Tracy Fuchs
107 Peppertree Lane, Painesville, Ohio
Painesville, OH 44077

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Ben Morehead
203 Ledges Road
Ridgefield, CT 06877

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Sincerely,

Justine Macneil
634 Wenoah
Oak Park, IL 60304

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Sincerely,

Victor Demoure
603 w kathryn nixa, mo.
Brighton, MO 65617

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Mark Dodrill
12924 SE 26th Street
Bellevue, WA 98005

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Mark Mabee
904 Cooper CT SE
Vienna, VA 22180

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Sincerely,

Melissa Dugan
5 Courtney Street
Newark, DE 19716

James F. Loan
3 Longwood Circle
Mansfield, MA 02048



Commissioner Michael J. Capps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
OCT 27 2003
FOC - MAIL ROOM

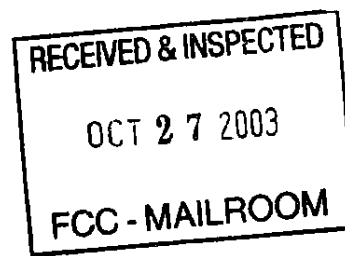


RECEIVED

2003 OCT 29 P 2:38

DEPT. OF PRISONER CORPS

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554



Dear Commissioner Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to **any** FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV. I have looked forward to the advent of digital TV for some time now, and am horrified at the prospect of its becoming a tool of the MPAA, who can only be described as enemies of the United States public.

The studios and their lackeys (the despicable Fritz Hollings immediately comes to mind here) **must not** be given control over the public. The FCC is supposed to protect the public, not the privileged few like the MPAA. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

This attempt to impose this so-called "broadcast flag" is just further evidence that you have lost your way. If you think that mandating things like "broadcast flags" are a way to induce me to invest in new technology, you are delusional. Why in God's name would I pay for the development and deployment of devices that only further limit my rights? The MPAA's next target is to cripple the public's ability to make analog recordings. What are you people thinking? Who are you working for?

The FCC appears more and more to be a tool of the privileged few, rather than a defender of the rights of the American public against these same privileged few. You continually permit vested interests with narrow goals, goals neither shared or supported by the American public, to erode what rights we have for their own profit. You have forgotten that you are supposed to work for the greater good. I know you don't give a damn about the public; your every-day actions scream that you are for sale. You disgust me, one and all.

Yet I write because it is MY responsibility to tell you that your actions are reviled by the American public, the very public for which you are supposed to work. You are not doing your job. If you think not, just scan the internet for references to the FCC; see how you are perceived. Not that you probably care.

James F. Loan
3 Longwood Circle
Mansfield, MA 02048

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Robert Iles
1327 Hernandez Drive
Orlando, FL 32808

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Sincerely,

Tristan Sanford
292 Heuhslein Rd
Port Angeles, WA 98362

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Sincerely,

Rebecca Miller
367 Avenue F #A
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

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Sincerely,

Brian Gant
12527 87th Place NE
Kirkland, WA 98034

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Sincerely,

Steven Petrsek
8649 victoria rd
Springfield, VA 22151

2003-10-29 20:09:12 (GMT)
16506181679 From

Wednesday, October 29 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
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Sincerely,

Derall Riley
754 E Hampton Ct
Gilbert, AZ 85296

2003-10-29 20:07:15 (GMT)
165061816/9 From

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The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Ortega
4079 W. 6515, West Jordan, Utah
West Jordan, UT 84084

Wednesday, October 29 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Chris Lombardozzi
324 East 5th St. #2
Brooklyn, NY 11218

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

The Broadcast flag is an anti-competitive, anti-consumer subsidy of the entertainment industry. Because it will reduce the utility of broadcast video by restraining reasonable uses of broadcast material, it will undermine technologic development, thereby contravening the constitutional mandate that gave rise to copyright.

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Sincerely,

David Gessel
5233 Foothill Blvd
Oakland, CA 94601

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Chris Fraser
2477 Westmont Way West
Seattle, WA 98199

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

I am writing regarding the "broadcast flag" for digital television broadcasts. As a consumer and user of a wide range of electronic products, I am opposed to any measure that would stifle innovation or limit the choices available in this fast moving field.

The broadcast flag regulation is premature. Technology does not permit Internet transmission of HDTV broadcasts because the bandwidth is not available. Even a fast cable modem or DSL connection would take literally days to download a couple of hours of HDTV video.

In practice, video today is compressed and downgraded before being shared on the pirate networks. The broadcast flag will do nothing to stop this practice. And until we have bandwidth that is two orders of magnitude greater than today, it will continue to be technologically impossible to have wide scale sharing of high resolution video. The broadcast flag does not solve any problems that we face today or in the next several years.

At the same time, the broadcast flag will stifle innovation and limit new technologies like software decoders for HDTV video. That's a fast moving area which could revolutionize how people enjoy TV. I've had TiVo since it first came out, and I hope to see continual innovations in the video arena. By imposing strict limitations on how video signals can be processed and exchanged, the broadcast flag could hurt the technological progress that I as a consumer enjoy.

I understand that broadcasters are scared of the Internet after the experience of the music companies, but the technologies are utterly different in terms of bandwidth and costs. The great features of HDTV are the high resolution and improved video quality, and it will be many years before video can be exchanged across the net and preserve that quality. Songs can be compressed and still sound good, but video doesn't work that way. Our sense of vision is far more acute than our sense of hearing. These are genuine differences and because of them, the nightmare of the broadcasters cannot come true for probably another decade. There will be plenty of time then to explore a broadcast flag requirement based on our experiences to that point.

I hope you will carefully consider the wishes of consumers like myself and not just rubber stamp the broadcaster's proposal. Thanks very much for your attention.

Hal Finney

Sincerely,

Hal Finney
374 Arroyo Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Larry Sauls
19833 NE 148th St
Woodinville, WA 98077